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COMMUNICATION FROM MR. BALERIO U. PEDRO CONCERNING THE TRUST
TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with a decision taken by the Trusteeship
Council at its 1444th meeting on 5 June 1975)

Permanent address: Angaur Island,
Koror, Palau Islands, Caroline Islands 96940

2 June 1975

Representative of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics
United Nations Trusteeship Council
United Nations Headquarters
New York City, New York 10017

Dear Sir:

In response to your question, 1/ on whether a request for compensation for loss resulted from mining was submitted to the Administering Authority, the answer is that there was no request submitted to the Administering Authority for the following reasons:

1/ Note by the Secretariat. At the 1436th meeting of the Trusteeship Council, on 28 May 1975, Mr. Balerio U. Pedro addressed the Council on behalf of the people of the Angaur Islands. Mr. Pedro was unable to attend the 1437th meeting of the Council, on the same day, at which time the representative of the Soviet Union made the following statement:

"Mr. Pedro submitted concrete figures with respect to human loss suffered as a result of the phosphate mining. Was a request for compensation submitted to the Administering Authority? Was such a request considered by the Administering Authority? If the answer is "yes", then what was the result of such consideration?"

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/...

1. The leaders of Angaur were ignorant of the United Nations Trusteeship Agreement, its provisions and the obligations of the Administering Authority under the Agreement, and they are still not well informed on the Trusteeship Agreement to the fullest extent;

2. The Angaurese leaders did not know the tonnage of phosphate mined and its market price until very recently when the petitioner made an extensive research and found out about the market prices and total tonnages mined during the past and present foreign administrations; and

3. The petitioner thinks that the Executive Branch of the Administering Authority made an unfair compensation, in view of the prevailing market price, to the people of Angaur and therefore he considers it to be proper that the matter should be brought to the attention of the United Nations Trusteeship Council before a formal request for fair compensation should be submitted to the Administering Authority for final settlement.

The petitioner plans to submit a formal request for fair compensation to both the President of the United States of America and the United States Congress, since they have the final authority on this matter, sometime this year and will inform the Trusteeship Council about the result of the request.

The petitioner appreciates the question by the representative of the Soviet Union and welcomes any question and support to the Angaur phosphate mining claims.

Very truly and respectfully yours,

(Signed) Balerio U. PEDRO
Petitioner for the Angaur Islands

c.c. Trusteeship Council
